



# Missouri Organ Donor Program

**Sign Up for Life!**

*Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (Department)*

## Key Statistics and Data

- More than 2,100 Missouri residents are waiting for an organ transplant. (2005)
- Every 12 minutes a name is added to the national transplant waiting list.
- Nationally, 17 people die each day while waiting for a transplant.
- In FY 2005, 98 Missouri residents died while waiting for a life-saving transplant.
- One person can save seven lives by providing lifesaving transplants (heart, liver, pancreas, kidneys, and lungs)

## Program Description

The OD Program is implemented by the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services. The primary program focus is to maintain a statewide confidential registry of potential donors that is available to procurement agencies 24/7. The program also works with partners to develop and implement statewide public education initiatives to increase public awareness about organ donation.

### Contact Information

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## History & Authority

The Organ Donor (OD) Program was established and became operational on January 1, 1996. Program staff is guided by a ten-member advisory committee that is appointed by the Governor. The committee, known as the Governor's Organ Donation Advisory Committee (GODAC), assist the Department with the development and implementation of the program, and recommends priorities of expenditures from the OD Fund to meet program mandates.

There are several statutes that are relevant to the OD Program:

- RSMo 194.297 to 193.304  
Creation of the Organ Donor Program and GODAC
- RSMo 194.210 to 194.290  
Uniform Anatomical Gift Act
- RSMo 301.171 & 301.181  
Driver's Licensing & Organ Donor Registry Fund
- RSMo 301.020  
Motor Vehicle Registration & Organ Donor Registry Fund
- RSMo 301.3125  
Organ Donor Special License Plate

To read copies of these statutes, visit:  
[www.moga.state.mo.us/statutesearch](http://www.moga.state.mo.us/statutesearch).

The green ribbon is the internationally recognized symbol on organ and tissue donation; a gift of hope.



## Accomplishments & Products

- Nearly 2.0 million Missourians are currently listed on the statewide donor registry, including 52% of persons age 18 to 64. This represents a 3% growth in the past year.
- The OD Program receives an average of 9,000 registry enrollments each week through the state's license offices. Additionally, 500-600 paper forms and electronic registration forms are processed each month.
- In 2005, the program began a secure on-line registry enrollment process. Approximately 117 individuals registered on-line at [www.MissouriOrganDonor.com](http://www.MissouriOrganDonor.com).
- Specialty license plate statute and production of plates implemented. To date, funding for 37 plates have been processed.
- Distributed a donor mother's story through the Missouri Broadcasting Association for stations to use as a public service announcement.

## FY05 Budget Summary

The OD Program initiatives are funded solely by voluntary contributions to the Missouri Organ Donor Fund. The driver's license offices throughout the state may receive a \$1 donation at the time an individual makes application for a driver's license or identification card, or completes a vehicle registration. Voluntary contributions, in any denomination, may also be mailed directly to the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Service's Organ Donor Fund. In 2005, contributions for the "Be An Organ Donor" special license plate began providing additional funding to the program.

Contributions to the Organ Donor Fund are preserved by statute, and can not be used as general revenue. Likewise, the Organ Donor Program is prohibited from receiving any general revenue funds.

Organ Donor Fund Balance (June 30, 2005) ..... \$316,201  
Total Number of FTE's: ..... 1.55